

SINCE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER...

Maple Syrup (Satur)Days were three days of super Michigan weather & super wonderful adult & high school student volunteers.

Jeff built a desk for the store! The space looks more welcoming, accessible, and Barbara's office space is nice and cozy. Check it out in the picture to the right, or stop by and say hello!

2,100+ students & 500+ chaperones have attended a field trip at the Village in March & April alone! Thank you to everyone who is helping prepare field trip supplies!

Join us in welcoming Sarah! Some of you might recognize her smiling face on the Education Team.

Stephanie & Tom are expecting! Baby Arwady is anticipated fall 2023.

The Church ramp is under construction to make it more stable and safe.

Scarecrow Row & Troy Traffic Jam sponsorships have started to roll in! Our solicitating team is OUT-standing in their field.

We had an excellent turnout for our Village Egg Hunt despite the whipping wind on Saturday! More info on page 3.



Corwell Health is now the sponsor of our Healthy Initiative programs including the Village Fitness Challenge starting on June 1, and a brand new program for kids: Digger's Fitness Fun!

Civil War Days is on the horizon, and we needs YOU! More info on page 2.

Summer Village Tour Guide Training will begin in June. More info on page 3.

Two new Interns will be joining us this summer! Margie will be working with Elizabeth in collections and artifacts management, and Allison will be working with Stephanie and Barbara on museum & program administration.

The next Volunteer Meeting will be **Tuesday June 6 at 10:30am -11:30am** in the Niles-Barnard House. All monthly meetings will be on the first Tuesday of every month at 10:30am!

No need to RSVP - just stop on by! *No meeting July 4.*

CIVIL WAR DAYS

Over 1,200 8th grade students are expected to join us during Civil War Days at the Village for the next two weeks! Volunteers help by guiding students through the program stops and making sure their company groups stick to the prepared schedule. Students (and their volunteer guides!) will get to hear wonderful stories from a Civil War surgeon, President Lincoln, soldier recruitment, and so much more.

The shifts are 8:30am - 1:45pm-ish. If you sign up for more than one day, you're welcome to bring a book or some other activity to work on while the students are in presentations. The most important part of guides is dropping off and picking up the students! Volunteering for Civil War Days is a great way to experience a program that is only for students!

New this year, we have put 1/2 day shifts on the sign up. If you're unavailable for the whole shift, but are willing to get the group started from 8:30am - 11:30am, we would LOVE your help!

SUPPER WITH A SOLDIER

Supper with a Soldier is a brand new program this year! Happening on May 13th from 4pm - 8pm, this program will take the very best of our traditional Civil War Saturday program and add extras - like delicious dinner inspired by recipes of the era!

We need volunteer help at the check in table, and for helping serve the buffet-style food under a big tent outside. Shifts are shorter, so please sign up for multiple. If you're available and able! You will, of course, have time to walk around the program.

Photos on this page are from Stephanie Arwady!



BUSY SUMMER AHEAD

It is hard to imagine that summer is on her way, but the perennials in the Village are proof that warmer (and busier) days are ahead. This newsletter will have many upcoming save-the-dates so you can plan around your warm-weather activities! Some of the sign ups are posted, and you are welcome to sign up for as many and as often as you would like.

SignUp.com is what we are using, and it's super great because we can put all volunteer opportunities on ONE calendar, so there is no need to hop between different links! You can also see who else has signed up, and add the sign up to your own calendar.

SignUp.com is very similar to SignUp Genius, but if you have ANY questions or concerns about signing up, please let Barbara know. She is very happy to help!



SPRING EGG HUNT

Over 600 people joined us for the Spring Egg Hunt despite the whipping wind roaring through the Village on the Saturday of the event. We made fairy doors for the Egg Hunt Craft and our magical volunteers helped glue all the doors together & prepare the decoration bags. After the program on Friday, our volunteers helped prepare the mad dash and reassembling of moving things inside in anticipation for Saturday's weather.

Lots of smiles were had, and many, many, many new visitors who decided to come to the Egg Hunt after having such a wonderful time at Trick-or-Treat or Cocoa and Crafts with Santa! This is wonderful reflection of our amazing volunteer team who help us provide such welcoming and fun events for new and returning families alike. Thank you, Villagers, for genuinely treating each guest like they're the most important person you've met that day - your efforts have paid off exponentially.

And, a super special thank you to Cathy and Janet for being rockstars in the first shift of guest check in. On Friday, we had over 50 people walk in from 4pm - 4:30pm - on top of already sold out time slots! Thank you to Deb and Ken for helping us get reorganized and settled after a huge rush.



VILLAGE TOUR GUIDE TRAINING

Have you ever wanted to be a tour guide? Or ever wanted to try it out? Now is your chance!

On Fridays in July and August, guests to the Village will be able to partake in a volunteer-led, 90-minute guided tour of the Village at 10am or 1pm with their general admission ticket.

Volunteers wishing to be tour guides this summer will be required to attend training on:

- Part 1 on June 2, 10:30am - 3:30pm* (timing may shorten)
- Part 2 on June 16, 10:30am - 12:30pm
- Part 3 on June 23, 10:30am - 12:30pm
- Part 4 - final tour testing dates TBD, but will happen during the week of June 25 - July 13

If you have any questions before committing, please reach out to Barbara! I will also include more information in the next few weeks.

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

CIVIL WAR DAYS: COMPANY GUIDES MAY 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19

Dates are listed on the sign up (more program info on page 2). Times preferred are from 8:30am - 1:45pm, but 1/2 shifts are also available from 8:30am - 11:30am.

SUPPER WITH A SOLDIER MAY 13, 3:30PM - 8:30PM

Shifts are available on Sign Up (more program info on page 2). Check-In Table shifts are from 3:30pm - 5:30pm / 5:30pm - 7:30pm. Food serving shifts are from 3:30pm - 6pm / 6pm - 8:30pm.

MONTHLY SCHOOL CRAFT PREP MAY 9, 10:30AM - 12PM JUNE 13, 10:30AM - 12PM JULY 11, 10:30AM - 12PM

The second Tuesday of every month we will be working on our ongoing school craft prep. Join us to help prepare for field trips and get to know other volunteers! May, June, July are on Sign Up.

EARLY MORNING CANDLE DIPPING MAY 8, 9:30AM - 10AM MAY 23, 9:30AM - 10AM MAY 25, 9:30AM - 10AM MAY 31, 9:30AM - 10AM

Field trip season is almost finished, but we are in the thick of it right now. We need lots of candles still to get us through the rest of the year. These short shifts are before a field trip, so we will need to be finished by 10am so the field trip can begin. Shifts are on Sign Up.

FRONT DESK DUTY TUESDAYS 10AM - 12PM WEDNESDAYS 10AM - 12PM

Help at the front desk by greeting guests, answering phones, other admin duties. Will have instructions at the desk, and Barbara will be working near by. Shifts are on Sign Up.

SUMMER KICK-OFF JUNE 7, 4:30PM - 8:30PM

This is our second year hosting the Summer Kick-Off at the Village! We need your help directing guests where to park and directing guests how to enter the Village. This position is mostly standing, but there will be a chair to sit in between greeting guests. We will also need help working the Troy Historic Village info table! Shifts are on Sign Up.

TROY GARDEN CLUB GARDEN WALK & PLANT SALE JULY 12, 8:30AM - 8PM

The Garden Walk & Plant Sale is an annual fundraising program facilitated by the Troy Garden Club and the home-base for the day's program operations is at the Village. The Village is also free to everyone that day, so we need help taking care of all the guests that will be arriving! We need help directing parking and selling raffle tickets. All shifts are super short, so if you wanted to volunteer for a few, take a break and come back, please do! Shifts start at 8:30am, and are on Sign Up.

SUMMER RAFFLE

The Summer Raffle is our annual silent-auction fundraiser, and we need your help selling tickets during key events! We have kept the shifts short on all days, so if you want to help for a little while, go home and have a snack, then come back, please do! Any little bit helps. No experience necessary - we will teach you everything you need to know. Dates we need help (all are on Sign Up):

- June 7 (Summer Kick-Off): shifts start at 4:30pm
- July 12 (Garden Walk): shifts start at 8:30am

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES, CONT.

VOLUNTEER TOUR GUIDE **JUNE 2, 10:30AM - 3:30PM** **JUNE 16, 10:30AM - 12:30PM** **JUNE 23, 10:30AM - 12:30PM**

Dates are listed on the sign up (more program info on page 3). Shifts for the Summer will be posted after our first training date. Guides must be able to attend all three- if you're unable to make these dates, but are still interested in being a guide, please let Barbara know ASAP.

TROY TRAFFIC JAM **AUGUST 6, 5:30AM - 4PM**

Save the date for our biggest fundraiser of the year! We will need help with directing parking, working the info tent, 50/50 raffle, checking in and registering cars, and also helping with the peddal car! Please add this date and a general time that you're willing to help to your calendar. We will send a sign up at the end of the month.

TROY TRAFFIC JAM **ORIENTATION** **AUGUST 1, 7PM - 8:30PM** **AUGUST 3, 7PM - 8:30PM**

Orientation attendance is required for all volunteers and staff helping during the Troy Traffic Jam. Dates are on Sign Up, so please feel free to add one of the dates to your calendar now.

TROY TRAFFIC JAM **STUFFING GOODY BAGS** **AUGUST 2, 10AM - 1PM**

In preparation for the big day, we will need lots of help stuffing goody bags for car show participants. More info is on Sign Up!

SCARECROW ROW **BUILDING TEAM** **MONDAYS / WEDNESDAYS /** **FRIDAYS, 1PM - 4PM**

This year, building will take place inside the Niles-Barnard House at the Village. No experience required, will train anyone who is interested, and you any time you can offer between 1 & 4 is great. Starts Aug 7; on Sign Up.

SCARECROW ROW: SET UP / **TAKE DOWN DATES**

Please save the dates & sign up to help us set up and take down our audacious goal of 100 scarecrows! Dates are on Sign Up, and included below.

- September 13 (Troy Daze Set Up): 9:45am - 11:15am
- September 18 (Troy Daze Take Down): 10am - 12pm
- September 28 (Scarecrow Row @ Village Set up): 2:30pm - 5pm
- November 1 (Scarecrow Row @ Village Take Down): 2:30pm - 5pm

We will also have High School student volunteers helping us, so we mostly need adults as point persons!

PRESERVATION ASSISTANTS **THURSDAYS, 10AM - 12PM**

We are seeking energetic and compassionate people who enjoy cleaning to help us maintain some of our collections! Some duties may include dusting, sweeping / mopping, cleaning baseboards / walls, and other general housekeeping duties inside of our historic structures. We will provide all the supplies and have some training for handling artifacts! This position will work closely with our curator, Elizabeth! Starts June 15, and are on Sign Up.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION **COOKOUT** **AUGUST 19, TIME TBD**

Please save the date for a volunteer appreciation cook out on August 19! More information will follow. If you love planning large gatherings like this and would like to help plan the event, please let Barbara know!